

WR. 21. 943/55

# To the worthy Free Burgeſſes of the Borough of Colcheſter.

GENTLEMEN,

**Y**OUR eyes muſt now at length be opened. The laſt hand-bill from Mr. POTTER's friends muſt have removed every ſhadow of doubt from your mind. A certain *ſet* of men, whoſe *complexion* is too well known to need a particular deſcription, after having long held back, for purpoſes to which you cannot be ſtrangers, have at length declared openly for Mr. POTTER; and have *forced* Sir ROBERT SMYTH to ſupport a cauſe which he deteſts, and a man whom he deſpiſes. Unfortunate Sir ROBERT SMYTH! How often will he wiſh himſelf, and have reaſon to wiſh himſelf, beyond thoſe Alps, where he was long ſuppoſed to have been fixed in ſilent retirement. "Sir ROBERT SMYTH, it is ſaid, has now declared himſelf averſe to Mr R——'s recommendation." Yet, this very recommendation he once moſt earneſtly ſolicited. "He has united himſelf heart and hand in ſupport of Mr. POTTER." *Heart*, I deny. For within a few hours, after this ſuppoſed union, he declared openly, that he would rather vote for a —— that ran by him, than for Mr. POTTER.

With reſpect to that Gentleman, I have but one word to ſay. For I will not debaſe a cauſe, which ſtands in need of no ſuch ſupport, by perſonal invective or abuſe. Mr. POTTER is a *contractor*. Contracts under government are his ſole buſineſs, the ſole object of his purſuit. Do not ſuppoſe, Gentlemen, that, by ſaying this, I mean the ſlighteſt imputation upon Mr. POTTER's integrity. Many contractors are, I doubt not, very honeſt men. But every contractor is a *dependent* man; dependent directly or indirectly upon Miniſtry. The Houſe of Commons were, in a former ſeſſion, ſo ſtrongly impreſſed with this idea, that they paſſed a bill for diſqualifying *contractors* from ſitting in Parliament. And your preſent repreſentative, unleſs I am miſinformed, voted the very laſt ſeſſion for a ſimilar bill.

This, Gentlemen, is the man, of whom it is aſſerted, "that he has proved to *all* his independency." This is the *independent* candidate, to whom your *patriotic, independent* repreſentative has promiſed his ſupport.

I am, Gentlemen,

October 13, 1718.

Your hearty well-wiſher,

## A BROTHER BURGESS.